

**REMARKS**

With the entry of this amendment, claims 24, 25, 29, 31-34, 36, 37, 39-49, and 51 are pending and claims 1-23, 26-28, 30, 35, 38, and 50 are canceled.

The claims are being amended as a result of a discussion between applicants' undersigned representative and the Examiner, where the Examiner stated that he would look favorably upon a set of claims amended to reflect the optimal conditions recited at the end of the 132 Declaration filed with the PTO on May 12, 2003.

Applicants have amended claim 24 to recite "wherein the filtered solution is devoid of high molecular forms of vWF." Applicants urge that the phrase "high molecular forms of vWF" is not indefinite and would be understood by one of skill in the art. In support of this proposition, applicants attach one journal article (Furlan et al.) and two journal abstracts (de Romeuf et al. and Furlan et al.) wherein terms such as high molecular weight forms of von Willebrand or high molecular weight multimers of vWF are used. Moreover, the PTO itself has issued at least two patents that used terminology similar to "high molecular forms of vWF" in the claims. In US Patent No. 5,892,005 the phrase "high molecular weight vWF molecules" appears in claims 1 and 7. In US Patent No. 5,869,671 vWF is described throughout the claims as high molecular weight fractions or multimers. Therefore, as evidenced by art related publications and US patents, the phrase high molecular forms of vWF would be easily understood by one of skill in the art.

It is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below if the Examiner believes such would be helpful in advancing the application to issue.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to

Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

April 9, 2004

Date



Matthew E. Mulkeen

Reg. No. 44,250

**FOLEY & LARDNER, LLP**

3000 K Street, N.W., Suite 500

Washington, D.C. 20007-5143

Telephone: (202) 672-5300

Facsimile: (202) 672-5399